Nets for Agriculture

339. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experiments conducted by Punjab Agriculture University have proved that crops cultivated under the canopy a net have a much higher yield and do not require pesticides; and

(b) whether Government would take initiatives to spread such a method in other parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Experiments conducted on growing capsicum, bittergourd, bottlegourd and the cucumber under nets have shown an increase in the yields of these crops. The incidence of pest and disease attack is noticed to be less.

Growing of crops under nets is an old and known technique and is used for protecting the crops on a small and limited scale.

KVKs in U.P.

340. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for opening KVKs in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the places for this purpose have been identified; and

(c) if so, the names of such places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The districts identified are Ghazipur, Pratapgarh, Unnao, Bulandshahar, Baghpat, Jyotiba Phule Nagar, Mahamaya Nagar and Agra.